



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

ca

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/677,976 10/02/00 KAFRISSEN

M CRT-1316

HM22/0620

EXAMINER

PHILIP S JOHNSON ESQ  
JOHNSON & JOHNSON  
ONE JOHNSON & JOHNSON PLAZA  
NEW BRUNSWICK NJ 08933-7003

DEWITTY, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1616 4

DATE MAILED:

06/20/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/677,976	KAFRISSEN ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Robert M DeWitty	1616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## **Office Action Summary**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2001.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                    2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 21 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 21 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved.

12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

15)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
16)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
17)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3 .

18)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  
19)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
20)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

Claim 21 is pending in the instant application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mortimer.

Mortimer (GB 2,131,292) relates to progestational pharmaceutical formulations and their use. Mortimer teaches that synthetic compounds are known which are related to progesterone and exhibit similar hormonal activity (page 1, lines 36-37).

Progestational agents are known to cause desquamation of superficial cells of the vaginal mucosa, inhibit ferning of the cervical mucus, and induce withdrawal bleeds in oestrogen primed women (page 1, lines 46-48). Mortimer teaches that patients for whom progestational agent therapy is appropriate would benefit from treatment with folic acid (page 1, line 57-58). Examples of synthetic progesterone suitable for use in the invention include: Norgestrel and Norethisterone (page 2, lines 25 and 27).

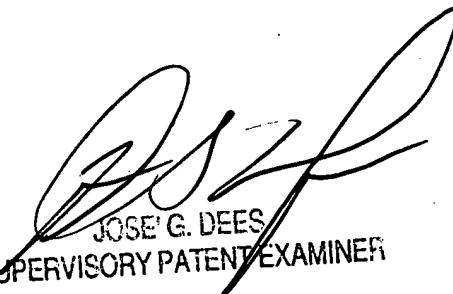
As both Norgestrel and Norethisterone as listed as suitable compounds in the instant application (see page 19 and 20), the instant claim is anticipated.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M. DeWitty whose telephone number is 703-308-2411. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jose Dees can be reached on 703-308-4527. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-7924.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.

RMD  
June 8, 2001

  
JOSE G. DEES  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

16.6